

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group 3

Question No. 52

Senator Singh asked the following question at the hearing on 24 February 2014:

Senator SINGH: I understand there is a UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in May this year. Are we sending anyone to that event? Is a minister attending that UN commission?

Mr Jevtovic: I am not able to answer that question.

Senator SINGH: Why is that?

Mr Jevtovic: Because I do not necessarily know that it actually relates to the Australian Crime Commission.

Senator SINGH: That is all right. It is just that it was a UN commission on crime prevention.

Mr Jevtovic: Yes.

Senator SINGH: I thought the Australian Crime Commission might have some input into it or connection to it in some way.

Mr Jevtovic: From time to time we do make some submissions and work collaboratively with the UN, particularly the UNODC, but on this occasion I am not certain that is the case.

Senator SINGH: Are you able to take it on notice?

Mr Jevtovic: I can take that on notice.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The ACC has strong engagement with the United Nations, especially through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Since its establishment in 1992, the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, among other things, acts as a preparatory body for the United Nations Crime Congress. The United Nations Crime Congress occurs every five years and will be held in Qatar from 12 to 19 April, 2015.

The ACC has already been an active contributor to the United Nations Crime Congress process. An ACC officer attended and spoke at the Asia and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Crime Congress in Bangkok, Thailand on 22–24 January 2014, including provision of case studies on contemporary crime prevention and criminal justice challenges.

The ACC will contribute to briefing and, pending operational priorities, will consider attendance at the United Nations Crime Presentation and Criminal Justice Commission in May 2014.

Whether any Minister is attending is a matter for Government.